

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-19 (Canceled)

20. (New) A method for retrieving data from at least one network-based information provider based on data captured from real-world entities comprising:

a) capturing data representing real-world entities by way of a network enabled, data-capture device having a processor and a user interface, said data-capture device being configured to retrieve data from a network having at least one information provider operative to provide search results to user-initiated queries formed from captured data representing real-world entities,

b) retrieving information from said network-based information provider based on a user-initiated query formed from the captured data by said data-capture device, and

c) presenting search results to the user-initiated query by way of said user interface.

21. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein said at least one network-based information provider is selected from the group consisting of a World-Wide-Web site, intranet site, extranet site, database, knowledge-base, search engine, dedicated server and service center.

22. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein said real-world entities are selected from the group consisting of a view, sound, odor, taste, texture, electromagnetic radiation, vibration, motion, text and location data.

23. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein said data-capture device is selected from the group consisting of digital camera, non-digital camera, microphone, scanner, scent detector, taste sensor, texture sensor, geophone, electromagnetic radiation receiver, motion sensor, acceleration meter, wind meter, thermometer, humidity sensor, location-sensor and Global Positioning System Receiver.

24. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein said data-capture device is configurable to fuse the captured data from a plurality of real-world entities into a single query.

25. (New) The method of claim 20 wherein said data-capture device is configurable to fuse data inputted by a user with the captured data by said data-capture-device to form a single query

26. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein said data capture device is configurable to function as a search engine.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said search engine is implemented as an image-based search engine.

28. (New) The method of claim of claim 26, wherein said search engine is implemented as a music-based search engine.

29. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein said data-capture device is integrated into a device selected from the group consisting of a wireless phone, cellular phone, NetPhone, Personal Digital Assistant, portable computer, pager, personal computer and digital camera.

30. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein said user interface includes output devices selected from the group consisting of a visual output device, audio output device, a textural output device, a motion generator, electromagnetic transmitter, vibrator and scent generator.

31. (New) A system for retrieving data from at least one network-based information provider based on data captured from real-world entities comprising:

a) at least one network-based information provider operative to provide search results to user-initiated queries formed from captured data representing real-world entities, and

b) a network enabled, data-capture device having a user interface and a processor, said data-capture device being configured:

- i. to capture data representing real-world entities,
- ii. to retrieve information from said information provider based on a user-initiated query formed from the captured data, and
- iii. to present the information retrieved from said network-based information provider to a user.

32. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein said at least one network-based information provider is selected from the group consisting of a World-Wide-Web site, intranet site, extranet site, database, knowledge-base, search engine, dedicated server and service center.

33. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein said real-world entity is selected from the group consisting of a view, sound, odor, taste, texture, electromagnetic radiation, vibrations, motion, text and location data.

34. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein said data-capture device is selected from the group consisting of digital camera, non-digital camera, microphone, scanner, scent detector, taste sensor, texture sensor, geophone, electromagnetic radiation receiver, motion sensor, acceleration meter, wind meter, thermometer, humidity sensor, location-sensor and Global Positioning System Receiver.

35. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein said user interface includes output devices selected from the group consisting of a visual output device,

audio output device, a textural output device, a motion generator, electromagnetic transmitter and scent generator.

36. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein said data-capture device is configurable to fuse data captured from a plurality of real-world entities into a single query.

37. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein said data-capture device is configurable to fuse data inputted by a user by way of said user interface with data captured by said data-capture-device to form a single query.

38. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein said data capture device is configurable to function as a search engine.

39. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein said search engine is implemented as an image based search engine.

40. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein said network-based information provider is implemented as a network-based dedicated server, wherein one of said network-based dedicated server and said data-capture device is configured to perform data processing on the captured data, said processing being selected from the group consisting of pattern matching, minimizing, resolution reduction and data-fusion.

41. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein said data-capture device is configurable to alert a relevant party in response to the information retrieved from said network-based information provider according to instructions inputted by a user.